

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

SB 1170 - HB 1457

March 24, 2023

SUMMARY OF BILL AS AMENDED (006457): Expands the scope of practice of physician assistants and makes changes to collaboration requirements for physician assistants.

Authorizes a physician assistant with greater than 6,000 hours of postgraduate clinical experience to apply to the Board of Physician Assistants (Board) for an endorsement on the physician assistant's license and to practice independently without a collaborating physician. Establishes that a physician assistant with fewer than 6,000 hours of postgraduate clinical experience must collaborate with a physician, and may only hold a minority ownership interest in a healthcare setting. Authorizes a physician assistant to render emergency medical services in cases where immediate diagnosis and treatment are necessary to avoid disability or death.

Establishes that a physician assistant who has received an endorsement certifying greater than 6,000 hours of postgraduate clinical experience may prescribe, dispense, order, administer, and procure appropriate medical devices, legend drugs, and controlled substances that are within the physician assistant's scope of practice, experience, and training, if the physician assistant has registered and complied with all applicable requirements of state law and rules and the federal drug enforcement administration. Requires the Board to monitor the prescriptive practices of physician assistants through site visits.

Takes effect January 1, 2024.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 63-19-107(2)(C), the Board is authorized to perform site visits to monitor the prescriptive practices of physician assistants.
- Based on information provided by the Department of Health, it is estimated that the department and the Board can accommodate the proposed legislation within existing resources; therefore, any fiscal impact is estimated to be not significant.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Board of Physician Assistants had a surplus of \$8,585 in FY20-21, a surplus of \$100,032 in FY21-22, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$339,393 on June 30, 2022.

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IMPACT TO COMMERCE OF BILL AS AMENDED:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumption for the bill as amended:

- The proposed legislation will not result in an increase in the amount of healthcare services provided in the state; therefore, any impact on commerce or jobs is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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